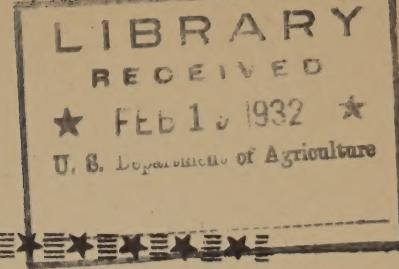


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America's Patriotic Music



*Descriptive Notes Prepared by R. A. Turner,—
Field Agent, Office of Cooperative Extension Work,
United States Department of Agriculture and broadcast
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1932

LEARNING TO KNOW AMERICA'S MUSIC

THIS SERIES of musical compositions covering the general theme "Learning to know America's Music" was arranged for broadcasting during the regular National 4-H Club Radio Programs which go on the air over the chain of radio stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company from 12.30 to 1.30, *Eastern Standard Time*, "Always on the first Saturday of each month." The music will be played by the United States Marine Band. A pamphlet listing the individual selections chosen for each program may be obtained upon application to the Office of Cooperative Extension Work, United States Department of Agriculture. The subjects featured in this series follow:

LEARNING TO KNOW AMERICA'S MUSIC

December 5, 1931	<i>America's Indian Music</i>
January 2, 1932	<i>America's Negro Spirituals</i>
February 6, 1932	<i>America's Patriotic Music</i>
March 5, 1932	<i>America's Religious Songs</i>
April 2, 1932	<i>America's Country Dances</i>
May 7, 1932	<i>America's Favorite Songs</i>
June 4, 1932	<i>America's Favorite Composers</i>
July 2, 1932	<i>Final National 4-H Club Music Achievement Test.</i>



EXTENSION SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

AMERICA'S PATRIOTIC MUSIC

From the 1931-32 National 4-H Music Achievement Series,
"Learning to Know America's Music"

How do you do, 4-H club folks and friends.

Once again we join with our friends of the United States Marine Band and participate in the third program of the 1931-32 National 4-H Music Achievement Test.

You all know that our central theme for this year is Learning to Know America's Music, and that we have thus far studied America's Indian music and America's Negro spirituals and songs.

You all know, also, that this is the year in which, as a Nation, we commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Washington. His birthday occurs during this month. It is quite appropriate, therefore, that during our February radio program we study America's patriotic music.

The Star-Spangled Banner - Key-Smith

Very appropriately our first number should be our own national anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner. You will hear this selection again at the close of to-day's national 4-H radio program because it is a custom of all three of the great service bands, namely, the United States Marine Band, the United States Army Band, and the United States Navy Band, to close their concerts with the national anthem.

May I briefly relate the story of how this song was written? You know that Francis Scott Key is the author. After the British had burned the city of Washington during the War of 1812, they advanced toward Baltimore. Just outside of Washington they captured a number of American soldiers, most of whom were taken to the fleet, then preparing to attack Fort McHenry. Among the prisoners was an intimate friend of Mr. Key's. Hoping to intercede for his friend's release, Key, with a flag of truce, started in a sailboat for the vessel of the British admiral. He procured his friend's release but was prevented from returning to shore because of the bombardment of the fort. All night long he paced the deck. When morning came he saw that "our flag was still there." Then, in the fervor of the moment, he wrote on the back of a letter the words of the song which we now know as our national anthem. That was in September, 1814. The words were sung to music previously written by an English composer named John Stafford Smith. You will recall that, on March 3, 1931, Congress officially designated the Star-Spangled Banner as our national anthem.

DISTRIBUTION: A copy of these annotations has been sent to each State club leader.

All of you 4-H club members who are listening to this program will want to stand now as the United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting, plays our own national anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner.

Delegates to each National 4-H Club Camp held here in Washington, D. C., have been shown the original flag which was flown at Fort McHenry on that memorable night, and those of you who will attend this year's national camp, to be held June 15 to 21, here in Washington, will also be privileged to see the original Star-Spangled Banner.

America - Carey

Next we hear America. There is much uncertainty as to who was the composer of the music of this song. Several nations sing patriotic songs to this same tune, of which the more familiar versions are the English "God Save the King" and the German "Heil Dir Am Siegerkranz." The composition is sometimes attributed to Henry Carey, an English composer, who, by certain authorities, is credited with having produced it about 1740.

There is no doubt, however, as to the author of the words. Samuel F. Smith, at the age of 24, while a student at Andover Theological Seminary in 1832, was reviewing some books on music lent to him by Lowell Mason, known as "the father of American church music," and was attracted by this particular tune. Seizing a scrap of paper, he wrote the words, substantially as they are sung to-day, and named the song "America."

America is played for us now by the United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting.

Dixie - Emmett

Next we hear a selection which, has become one of the best-beloved songs throughout the entire United States, namely, Dixie.

Both the words and music were written by Daniel Emmett, one of the widely known early American minstrels. In fact, Emmett is credited with having originated, in 1842, the Virginia Minstrels, said to be the first company of its kind in the United States. In 1859, Emmett was playing with Bryant's Minstrels in New York City, when, on a certain Saturday night, Bryant asked Emmett to have a new song ready to use at the Monday-evening show. Sunday happened to be a cold, rainy day and Emmett remarked, "I wish I was in Dixie." The chance wording of that phrase gave him his cue, and before Monday night he had written the now famous Dixie. Uncle Dan, as he was called, spent the last years of his life near his home town of Mount Vernon, Ohio.

The stirring music of Dixie, by Emmett, is the next number played by the United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting.

Yankee Doodle (Traditional)

And now for one of the very first examples of America's patriotic music. You may have already correctly guessed that it is Yankee Doodle. It was during the Revolutionary War that Yankee Doodle became established as one of our patriotic airs. No one seems to know exactly who wrote it. England, Holland, Turkey, Persia, and Spain have laid claim to its origin.

We are told that the British troops sang it in their attempts to ridicule the American Revolutionary soldiers, but the quick-witted Yankees made the tune popular by adopting it and using it as a retort to the British.

So, regardless of the origin of the tune, the words, as we sing them, establish Yankee Doodle as an American song. Perhaps we should call it a patriotic air, since we but seldom sing the words.

Catch the swing of it as the United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting, plays Yankee Doodle.

America the Beautiful March - Missud

Another of our patriotic songs is America, the Beautiful. The words for this song were written by Katharine Lee Bates, when professor of English at Wellesley College. In 1893, while teaching in a summer school in Colorado, Miss Bates made a trip to the top of Pike's Peak. The view from that point inspired her to write the words which, with subsequent revision, are now sung to the hymn tune Materna, written by Samuel A. Ward, an American composer.

Jean Missud, a composer living in Salem, Mass., has written a delightful march entitled "America the Beautiful March" in which are heard the strains of this dignified song.

The United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting, plays America the Beautiful March, by Missud.

Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean - a'Becket

Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean is our next selection. Like many other songs, the exact authorship of this song has been questioned. Careful research by musical authorities seems, however, to show conclusively that the song was written by Thomas a'Becket of Philadelphia and was first sung in the Chestnut Street Theater in that city in 1843.

The song is sometimes called the Army and Navy Song because of its reference to the two branches of the service. And it is, also, popularly known as The Red, White, and Blue.

The United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting, plays Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean, by a'Becket.

Perhaps all patriotic music is to a greater or less extent popular music, but it may be classed separately since its origin is largely due to the circumstance of war. Such has been the birth of much of America's patriotic music used on to-day's program. No country can ignore the patriotic force capable of being brought into play through the power of music.

Hail, Columbia - Fyles

The ever popular Hail, Columbia is the next selection to which we shall listen. Both the words and the music emanated from a deep spirit of patriotism and both found birth at critical times in our national life. The music was not written for the words. The music had already become familiar as a march, and the words were written afterwards to fit the tune.

A thorough study reveals that Mr. Fyles, leader of the orchestra in the John Street Theater in New York, wishing to compliment General Washington, composed The President's March, and played it when the general was in New York during the year of his inauguration. Nine years later, when war with France was thought to be inevitable, the words were written by Joseph Hopkinson, set to the tune of the President's March and the song named "Hail, Columbia."

The United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting, plays Hail, Columbia, by Fyles.

Before we hear our last selection in to-day's National 4-H Music Achievement Test, may I tell you that during the next national 4-H club radio program at this same hour on Saturday, March 5, we shall study America's hymns and religious songs.

World War Medley

May I tell you, also, that if you desire a complete list of the musical compositions to be used in this 1931-32 National 4-H Music Achievement Test or a copy of the annotations used each month, these may be had for the asking by writing to the Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

We close our study of America's Patriotic Music with a selection, World War Medley, in which are heard bits of the favorite songs sung by the American soldiers during the World War. This medley is played now by the United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting.

